Boston, March 19, 1839.

Dear bro. George:

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I am somewhat apprehensive that this hasty scrawl will not meet your eye as promptly as I could wish; for the time is close at hand for holding our State quarterly meeting, which is to decide whether our sacred enterprise shall continue under the management of its old and tried friends, or be given up to the control of politicians and sectarists. I hope you are at home — so that you may know promptly, that it is the earnest wish of myself, and others around me, that you would be present with us in this last and most important crisis. You think of coming to Boston in April. Now, just alter your arrangements so as to be with us next Tuesday. Don't fail, for ordinary reasons, I pray you. As goes Massachusetts, so go the free States. By one united, vigorous effort, at this time, I am persuaded we shall succeed in utterly discomfiting all insidious plotters — but the least holding back, on our part, will prove fatal. [I want to see you particularly in regard to the expediency of publishing the "Cradle of Liberty," which you saw noticed as forthcoming, in the last Liberator. We shall issue a specimen number, in season for the quarterly meeting next week, and then determine at once as to the course it may be proper to pursue. I have some misgivings on the subject. It may look like a mere personal contest for patronage, though not so intended by myself.

Again — I am fearful that, for us to afford a weekly paper of the size of the Abolitionist, for 50 cts. a year, containing the cream of the anti-slavery matter in the Liberator, will injure the subscription of our paper. Our friends, however, seem generally to approve of the project. If I could know your mind, I should be more decided in my own. It is thought that the issuing of this little sheet will most effectually hedge up the way of the Abolitionist, and thus defeat whatever scheme the getters up of that paper may have in view.]

#2 [We may have a tolerably quiet, and again a very stormy meeting on Tuesday next. I believe the Board of Managers will be sustained in the course they have pursued, by a majority of the delegates. If they should not, they will resign, as a matter of course; and the State Society will pass into other hands.

Phelps has written a long reply to the Address of the Board, respecting the doings of the N. Y. Executive Committee, which he is about issuing in a hand-bill. I did not feel obligated to give it a place in the columns of the Liberator, and declined doing so.

Stanton has left the State — whether to return again, I know not; but probably he will be here at the quarterly meeting. The transformation in his feelings towards the Liberator and myself is complete. Since the annual meeting, though a large portion of the time in this city, he has had nothing to say to me. His conduct throughout has been very reprehensible, and greatly has he injured himself in the eyes of the best friends of our cause. His political hobby has well nigh ruined him and put an end to all harmonious action in Massachusetts. My soul is filled with grief on his account. — Dearly have I loved him in time past, and great have been my expectations in regard to his future career. But I fear he has made up his mind to be "a man of one idea" — for he seems to be determined to look only in one direction, and with a short-sighted vision.]

There is some doubt whether Mr. Phelps will be installed at the Marlboro' Chapel, on account of his hostility to the doctrine of personal and perfect righteousness. Pres. Mahan's preaching has sunk deeply into the hearts of many members of the Free Church; and you are aware, perhaps, that he advocates "perfectionism" as alone constituting christianity. He has just published a book on this subject, which I like as far as I have read it, and which will, in due time, cause some sensation among holy sinners and evangelical rebels.

#3 [About 1500 subscribers ~~is~~ are all, I understand, that have been obtained, as yet, for the Abolitionist, notwithstanding the deep hostility that is cherished toward the Liberator, and notwithstanding all the efforts of St. Clair, Phelps, Stanton, Wise, Torrey, backed up by the orthodox clergy. Not less than 5000 subscribers will be necessary to defray its expenses. These, perhaps, may be obtained, in time.]

I have just received another letter from Boyle, equal if not superior to his first, and about twice as long. It will make a sensation, when it is published. I shall publish it entire in the Non-Resistant, and nearly all of it in the Liberator. It is the intention of friend Knapp to print it, also, in pamphlet form. Boyle ought to be here in New-England, editing a paper that shall cause every sect in Christendom (or, rather, in Babylon) to tremble. Can we not provide a way for his coming? I have also received a very beautiful letter from his wife, written in the same spirit.

The election in the Fourth District takes place on the 1st Monday of April. The Whigs have again nominated Nathan Brooks; so that it is more than probable — almost certain — that Parmenter will succeed, to the great injury of our cause. Bro. Stanton was premature in stirring up the political waters in that District.

Give my brotherly regards to my friend Coe, who has complimented me by giving a part of my odious name to his youngest born. I was very glad to receive his manly letter on non-resistance. It is my earnest desire that he may clearly apprehend and cordially embrace the divinely originated principles of our society. I am quite sure that he will be with us. I also desire to be remembered to his wife. Also to Mr. and Mrs. Stetson, Mr. and Mrs. Scarborough, and all other friends.

☞ ~~Lu~~cilia will remain with us till the 1st of May.

We received, a few days since, a joint letter from you and dear sister Anna. You have a fine babe, it seems, in George Benson — *almost* equal to my little Willie, who, being the paragon of babies, will of course not admit of an equal — notwithstanding that "all are born equal." Cover his soft cheeks with kisses for me, and also the cheeks of dear little Anne and Henry Egbert. We are glad to learn that Catherine is nearly herself again, as to health. As for us at No. 2, Nassau Court, we remain in a quiet, happy state of mind, loving many, and hating nobody in the wide world. Mother has enjoyed much better health, generally, than perhaps could have been expected. She will

Single.

George W. Benson,
Brooklyn,
Connecticut.

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not return home for the present — is quite contented — but has not made up her mind how long to stay. We want her to remain with us as long as it is agreeable to her; but I presume she will wish to be with you all, during the hot summer months.

Assure my beloved sisters, Sarah and Anna, that they are as dear to me as ever; and though my letters to them are as scarce as Sybilline leaves, yet my love for them is a permanent part of my existence. Hoping to see you, without fail, on Tuesday next, when I can tell you many interesting things, I remain, as ever,

Your admiring brother, Wm. Lloyd Garrison